



**Swedish Space
Corporation**

Press Release

First-ever wideband polylingual direct-to-Earth demonstration

Stockholm, Sweden – 19 December 2025

Swedish Space Corporation (SSC) to demonstrate direct-to-Earth, forward and return links on Ka-band via its global ground station network for NASA's groundbreaking PExT (Polylingual Experimental Terminal) technology demonstration.

Managed by NASA and the agency's SCaN (Space Communications and Navigation) Program in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, the Polylingual Experiment Terminal, or PExT, is a first-of-its-kind, in-flight Ka-band wideband technology demonstration that allows spacecraft to communicate across frequencies, including both government and commercial networks.

From a single terminal, the PExT demonstration showcases various mission scenarios in Earth proximity while roaming between NASA's Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS) system and three commercial communications networks.

"We are proud to be one of the few networks selected for this groundbreaking NASA demonstration, aiming to prove interoperability across multiple ground assets. This addresses a whole new market segment, not least by enabling post-launch service additions. Our ground stations will ensure a reliable link between Earth and space," says Dan Narey, Business Development Director at SSC.

The mission, which launched on July 23, was recently extended to add an additional 12 months of testing, including the direct-to-Earth testing with SSC. During extended mission operations, SSC will support the flight demonstrations throughout more than 50 low Earth orbit direct-to-Earth passes. PExT will link to Earth via SSC's partner ground station in Weilheim, Germany, owned by the German Aerospace Center (DLR).

Focused on the commercial market, the PExT technology demonstration supports NASA's broader plans to retire the TDRS constellation and transition to a commercial-first approach for near-Earth space communications services by 2031.

Curious to delve deeper into this topic? Read more at <https://www.nasa.gov/mission/pext/>



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About SSC: Swedish Space Corporation (SSC) is a leading global provider of advanced space services, with more than 50 years of experience. We help space organizations, research institutes, commercial and institutional actors from all over the world to get access to space. With local presence on all continents and about 700 committed employees, we offer specialist expertise in satellite communications and satellite control services, spacecraft operations, rocket and balloon systems, launch services and flight test services, as well as engineering, operations and consultancy services for space missions. We enable successful space projects within Earth observation, telecommunications, security, meteorology, navigation and positioning, scientific research and other applications. Among our strongest assets are Esrange Space Center in northern Sweden, set out to be a leading provider of satellite launch services from mainland Europe, as well as one of the world's largest commercial ground station networks for satellite communications. For more information, visit www.sscspace.com.